

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 1, 2004. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 15-19 are pending. Claims 3-8 have been cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 15-19 have been added. Support for the added claims can be found in the original disclosure, e.g., at page 1, lines 6-10 of the specification. Therefore, no new matter has been added. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim.

Initially, Applicants note with appreciation that Claims 1 and 2 have been allowed. In regard to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, it is noted that the subject matter cited by the Examiner in paragraph 4.a. of the Office Action is not recited as a "step" and is not recited in each of the claims but only in Claims 1 and 2. In regard to paragraph 4.b., it is noted that Claim 4 does not recite a "method step of patterning." Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit that each of Claims 1 and 2 is allowable for its combination of claimed features.

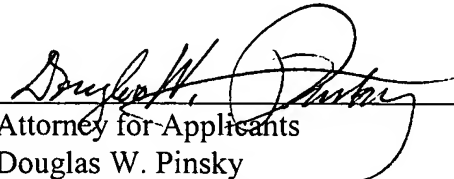
Claims 3-8, which were rejected, have been canceled. The rejection of these claims is therefore moot.

Each of Claims 15-19 depends from independent Claim 1 and is therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons as pertain to Claim 1.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Douglas W. Pinsky
Registration No. 46,994

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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